

Arlington Human Rights Commission Minutes

Thursday April 17, 2014

Members Present: Sheri Baron, Christine Carney (Chair,) Douglass Davidoff, Stacy Davison, Ghanda DiFiglia, Mel Goldsipe, Sharon Grossman, Nick Minton and Robin Varghese (Vice-Chair)

Members Absent: Marlissa Briggett, Gary Horowitz, Jorge Loayza and Nancy Rhoads

Others Present: Kelly Bruneau (Admin)

C. Carney called the meeting to order at 8:05 PM.

1. Citizen's Open Forum: None.

2. March Minutes: G. DiFiglia made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. M. Goldsipe seconded the motion. Eight were in favor, one abstained and the motion carried.

3. Correspondence Received: C. Carney passed out flyers for a Narcan event sponsored by Arlington Health and Human services on April 30, 2014. C. Carney encouraged all Commissioners to sign up for the Winchester Multicultural Network e-mail list. The Network is sponsoring an event on April 27, 2014. Two authors will discuss white privilege. One of the authors is a Winchester native.

4. Subcommittee Reports:

20th Anniversary/10 Year Anniversary of Marriage Equality: S. Davison reported that the flyer and invite have been completed, the speakers are all set and a film segment created by an Arlington resident will be shown. S. Davison can bring LCD equipment and N. Minton will bring a screen to show the film. R. Varghese, S. Grossman, G. DiFiglia and K. Bruneau will assist with setting up the event. C. Carney, N. Rhoads and R. Varghese will coordinate food for the event. C. Carney will order the flowers. S. Baron will order the cake. C. Carney will post the event on the Facebook page, bring flyers to town meeting and get the event on the town e-mail list. S. Baron will post the event on the Arlington List. D. Davidoff reported that the press release was not complete but would be soon. He planned to send a draft of the release to C. Carney and S. Baron for final approval before forwarding to the Arlington Advocate. S. Davison will forward event info to the Ottoson Middle School GSA. C. Carney already forwarded the event to the Arlington High School GSA.

AHRC Historical Timeline Updates: N. Minton reported that he is reviewing all of the Commission annual reports and can have the timeline completed prior to the May 4th event. D. Davidoff made a motion to spend up to \$200.00 on timeline software. N. Minton seconded the motion. The motion was discussed and D. Davidoff withdrew the motion.

School Liaison Program Updates: M. Goldsipe and S. Davison are talking with Margaret Thomas about the possibility of screening a film on white privilege in order to educate people on the purpose of METCO. M. Goldsipe will forward a link of the film trailer to Commissioners.

Miss Representation Recap: The film was good but upsetting. A major eye opening point was that men also need to be educated because they make a large number of decisions regarding how women are portrayed in the media.

5. METCO/AHRC Response to Arlington Advocate Commentary: M. Goldsipe drafted a commentary to the article *Boston Should Pay More METCO Costs*, published in the Arlington Advocate. C. Starks, a contributor to the article, agreed to be quoted in the commentary.

6. Brochure Update: M. Goldsipe completed an updated draft of the new brochure. M. Goldsipe will create a list of Commissioners as an insert to the brochure. M. Goldsipe made a motion to spend up to \$300.00 for printing of up to 1000 brochures. S. Grossman seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried. R. Varghese will coordinate brochure printing with Shawsheen Technical High School.

7. LGBTQ Community Liaison: Creation of Sub-committee to Explore Town's Need for Position: A sub-committee will be created to complete a needs assessment for the LGBTQ community and furnish recommendations based on those needs. C. Carney suggested waiting until the next meeting to create the sub-committee due to 4 Commissioners being absent. D. Davidoff made a motion for C. Carney to not wait until the next meeting to form the sub-committee. M. Goldsipe seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried. M. Goldsipe volunteered to be on the sub-committee. She will reach out to Anna Watson and inquire about her interest in being the community liaison to the sub-committee.

8. Outreach to Local LBGTQ: K. Bruneau reached out to the Belmont Gay Straight Alliance Committee, the Cambridge GLBT Commission and the Somerville Office of the LGBT Liaison. The Cambridge GLBT Commission invited Arlington Commissioners to attend a Cambridge meeting and/or offered to attend an AHRC meeting.

9. Administrative items:

Review Rapid Response List & Mailing/Contact List: C. Carney reported that intern Jill Maines was unable to attend the meeting but completed a draft of the Rapid Response list. C. Carney will make the list a Google Doc so that Commissioners can make any changes needed. No progress on the mailing list.

Review of Fiscal Year 2013 Budget: S. Grossman made a motion to spend up to \$500.00 on items possibly needed for Town Day including a banner, table and tent. R. Varghese seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried. C. Carney will check to see if any of these items need to be purchased.

10. Community Updates/Happenings: C. Carney reported that All Hands In is sponsoring a free event at town hall on April 26, 2014. The organization is sponsored by the Trinity Baptist Church and works with victims of human trafficking.

N. Minton made a motion to adjourn at 10:00pm. M. Goldsipe seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Submitted by:
Kelly Bruneau
Administrative Assistant